

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.       A pure polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 65% identical  
2 to SEQ ID NO:2 or 4, wherein the polypeptide, once over-expressed in a cell, accelerates  
3 G<sub>2</sub>/M progression and promotes cell survival.

1           2.       The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 70%  
2 identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1           3.       The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 80%  
2 identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1           4.       The polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 90%  
2 identical to SEQ ID NO:4.

1           5.       The polypeptide of claim 4, wherein the amino acid sequence is SEQ ID  
2 NO:4.

1           6.       An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 1, or a  
2 complementary sequence thereof.

1           7.       An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 2, or a  
2 complementary sequence thereof.

1           8.       An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 3, or a  
2 complementary sequence thereof.

1           9.       An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 4, or a  
2 complementary sequence thereof.

1           10.      An isolated nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide of claim 5, or a  
2 complementary sequence thereof.

11. An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.
12. An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 2.
13. An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 3.
14. An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 4.
15. An antibody which selectively binds to the polypeptide of claim 5.
16. An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.
17. A method of expressing a transcript in a cell, the method comprising:  
introducing a vector into a cell, the vector containing a nucleic acid encoding a transcript; and  
expressing the transcript in the cell;  
wherein the transcript hybridizes under high stringency conditions to SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or a complementary sequence thereof.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein the transcript encodes the polypeptide of claim 1.

1 19. A method of determining whether a patient has a cell proliferation disorder,  
2 the method comprising:  
3 providing a test sample from a patient suspected of having a cell proliferation  
4 disorder, and  
5 detecting hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the test sample,  
6 wherein a level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the test sample  
7 different from a level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in a control sample  
8 from a normal person indicates that the patient has a cell proliferation disorder.  
9

10 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
11 gene expression in the test sample is higher than the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
12 gene expression in the control sample.

1 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the cell proliferation disorder is a cancer.

1 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma or  
2 cervical carcinoma.

1 23. The method of claim 19, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
2 gene expression in the test sample is lower than the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
3 gene expression in the control sample.

1 24. A method of identifying a candidate compound useful for treating a cell  
2 proliferation disorder, the method comprising detecting hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene  
3 expression in the presence of a test compound, wherein a level of hepatoma-up-regulated  
4 protein gene expression in the presence of the test compound different from a level of  
5 hepatoma-up-regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound indicates  
6 that the test compound is a candidate useful for treating a cell proliferation disorder.

1           25.     The method of claim 24, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
2     gene expression in the presence of the test compound is lower than the level of hepatoma-up-  
3     regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound.

1           26.     The method of claim 25, wherein the cell proliferation disorder is a cancer.

1           27.     The method of claim 26, wherein the cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma or  
2     cervical carcinoma.  
3

1           28.     The method of claim 24, wherein the level of hepatoma-up-regulated protein  
2     gene expression in the presence of the test compound is higher than the level of hepatoma-  
3     up-regulated protein gene expression in the absence of the test compound.